

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 INR-07 SS-15 /035 W

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R 051430Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1597

S E C R E T NAIROBI 8274

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, US, SE, KE

SUBJECT: NAVY RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS TO SEYCHELLES

1. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF REGULAR U.S. NAVY P-3 FLIGHTS TO SEYCHELLES WITH DEPUTY CINC EUROM IN LATE JULY AND WITH AMEMBASSY VICTORIA DCM MATTSON DURING LATTER'S CONSULTATIONS IN NAIROBI AUGUST 4. INITIAL DOD REQUEST FOR PERIODIC FLIGHTS HAD BEEN DISAPPROVED BY DEPARTMENT IN LIGHT OF DEMANDS ALREADY BEING PLACED ON SEYCHELLES DURING CARRIER TASK FORCE PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN, A DECISION WITH WHICH EMBASSY FULLY CONCURS.
2. ASSUMING THE INDIAN OCEAN QUIETS DOWN FOR THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO, EMBASSY VICTORIA BELIEVES P-3 FLIGHTS TO SEYCHELLES WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOS WITHOUT UNDUE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS, SUBJECT TO FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
  - A. FLIGHTS SHOUD OCCUR AT INTERVALS OF NO LESS THAN 6 TO 8 WEEKS.
  - B. EACH FLIGHT SHOULD BE CLEARED ROUTINELY AND INDIVIDUALLY. GOS SHOULD NOT BE ASKED TO REACT TO PROPOSAL FOR REGULAR USAGE, EVEN THOUGH IT WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME APPARENT THAT REQUESTS ARE BEING MADE ON RECURRING BASIS.
  - C. THE AIRCRAFT SHOULD MAKE ONLY ONE LANDING AT

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SEYCHELLES, AND SHOULD REMAIN NO LONGER THAN ONE OVER-

NIGHT. DOD REQUEST TO STAGE ONE FLIGHT OUT OF SEYCHELLES WITH RETURN TO SEYCHELLES BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR DIEGO GARCIA PRESENTS TOO HIGH A PROFILE AND TOO GREAT A RISK OF "FOREIGN MILITARY BASE" CRITICISM.

D. AIR CREW SHOULD ARRIVE IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING AND SHOULD NOT APPEAR IN UNIFORM WHILE IN SEYCHELLES.

3. IF IT IS DECIDED TO AUTHORIZE FLIGHTS ON ABOVE BASIS, THEY SHOULD NOT BEGIN UNTIL AFTER RETURN TO VICTORIA OF DCM MATTSON IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

4. NAVY HAS INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT THEY WOULD LIKE ALSO TO SCHEDULE P-3 FLIGHTS TO KENYA, PROBABLY MOMBASA RATHER THAN NAIROBI. IF REQUEST IS PRESENTED BY DOD, EMBASSY NAIROBI WOULD BE PREPARED TO RAISE QUESTION WITH KENYA GOVERNMENT, AND WOULD ANTICIPATE FAVORABLE RESPONSE FOR FLIGHTS EVERY THREE OR FOUR WEEKS.  
MARSHALL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE, MILITARY POLICIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NAIROB08274  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760302-0670  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUL 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by RowellE0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAVY RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS TO SEYCHELLES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, US, SE, KE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006